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FLOUR IS STILL ON UPWARD PATH

Staple Is Selling for Less Money Here Than It Can Be Purchased on the Mainland in Jobber's Lots, and Advance Will Have to Come With Next Consignment—Other Commodities Will Soon Be Cheaper, However—Increased Demand the Cause of Shortage.

Not only is there no chance that wheat flour will become any lower than Mr. Thompson stated that the day he left Seattle his company sold but there is every indication that 1,000 bushels of wheat, in a normal year, there may be a noticeable increase with at \$1.35. At that figure first grade flour would cost the miller \$7.12. At the present time wheat flour is being sold in wholesale lots in less than 50 per cent of the trade is utilized in Honolulu cheaper than it can be manufactured in the Northwest.

Jobbers here take orders for flour a month or more ahead of delivery time, and fix the price according to the market quotation then holding. Flour contracted for at the old quotation is now being supplied at that figure, no orders are being collected for however.

That the present shortage of wheat is due to an increased demand rather than a reduced crop is the belief of W. T. Lucas, manager of Henry May & Co. Mr. Lucas does not place any stock in the wheat concern either.

President Thompson of the Central Milling Company of Seattle, who is also president of the Seattle Grain Company, had an extended conference with Mr. Lucas on the subject of wheat prices when he passed through here on the Tokyo

June 6, 1909, to go to the Orient.

Henry May & Co. are selling in big lots at \$6.25, the price being based upon the quotation at which they bought. Since their last shipment arrived they have been notified of a 40 cent advance by the mills.

June flour will, it is prophesied, gross as much, or more. In fact, it is some as "patent," this flour lacks

authoritatively stated that there is no change of any reduction before October, the new wheat not being available for flour manufacture until September.

The great St. Paul mills are not actively in the field for orders, are doing no soliciting now.

"Ordinarily we have letters from the big millers by every mail," continued Mr. Lucas. "We have had none for months. The millers are not trying to get orders."

Under normal conditions flour sells here, in wholesale lots, at from \$4.25 to \$4.50 a barrel.

It is authoritatively stated that in actual production, there were as many bushels of wheat this year as last, but the rapidly extending markets have increased the demand to an enormous extent.

It is stated that bread cannot be sold in honest bakers at twenty-eight cents for a dollar, the usual price, without a serious loss to the producer.

"One of two things must happen," said a prominent wholesaler yesterday. "The price of bread must be put up or the little fellows must go out of business. A loaf such as a baker could sell at a profit for 5 cents, would be so small that you would not carry it home."

So much in excess of the supply is the demand for flour that millers have returned to the practice of making "straights," low grade of flour that for years has not been turned out except for the Oriental export trade.

In the manufacture of "patent" flour, only some 40 per cent of the wheat is utilized, the remainder being "cut-off." In the grinding of "straights" everything but the chaff

is removed.

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the whiteness of the standard article, and long ago was discontinued by the Edwards general trade. Not for years has any change of any kind been seen in this. Performances of the play are well attended, but probably will not be taken up to the full extent, and placed in the next future.

The increase in the price of cereals is not limited to wheat, and oats are representing the steeper competition of the grain millers. Oats are selling at wholesale at the rate of \$1.25 a ton on the round measure, and bring 30 cents a bushel. For

day. Corn, which once brought 40 cents a bushel, is now being sold at 35 cents a bushel and wheat 40 cents a bushel. These figures bring the performance of cereals to the same level as the prices of grain and oats.

But even in excess to the price of flour and grain has been felt on the mainland before it was felt here, and straight through the Honolulu selling price have been lower than metropolitan figures in the States.

As an offset to the increase in the price of flour, there has been a general reduction here in the price of many staple articles. Butter is now considerably cheaper than it has been for years, eggs have gone down and potatoes and onions will. It is authoritatively stated, experience a big drop about the first of June. The forecast is also made that meat will be more plentiful and, in consequence, much cheaper. The advent of the fruit season will also mean a radical reduction in general living expenses, as fruit is better and more plentiful this season than it has been in recent years.

M'GANNON'S SKULL WAS VERY BADLY FRACTURED

The Coroner's jury that is examining into the cause of the death of J. McGannon and making an investigation into the matter of his having been refused admission to the Queen's Hospital, did not finish taking testimony last night and will resume the inquest at 7:30 tonight.

Evidence given last night brought out nothing new. Dr. McDonald, who performed the autopsy, testified that he found a large clot of blood, measuring four by five inches, under the skull when he removed the latter. The left eye was badly swollen and discolored, and there was a contused wound beneath the right eye. When the scalp was cut and turned back, it was discovered that the skull was badly fractured just above the left temple. The doctor expressed the opinion that the wound might have been received by contact with some flat surface, such as a pavement, or by some blunt instrument.

A Kahanui, the police officer who first took McGannon to the hospital, testifies that the man's breath smelled of liquor. He said the doctor washed the man's face, wiped the blood away, felt about his head and then ordered him taken away.

The evidence of the doctor who made the examination will be taken tonight.

CARD OF THANKS.

Mr. and Mrs. Steve Berrigan's heartfelt and sincere thanks are tendered to the friends who were so thoughtful who sent flowers and tendered sympathy in their recent bereavement in the loss of their little daughter Madeline.

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P. E. R. Strauch

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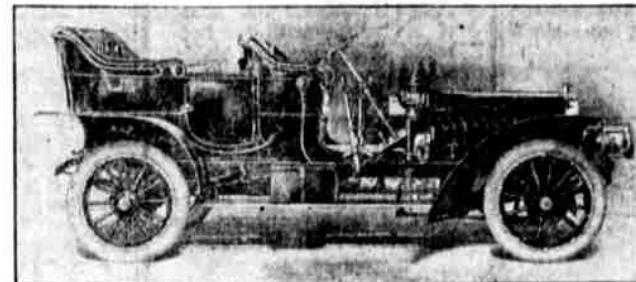
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